(a) whether Government propose a scheme for involving private medical colleges and non-governmental organizations in the management of Primary Health Centres in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that Karnataka Government plans to handover PHCs to NGOs for their management; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The responsibility of establishing financing and managing Primary Health Centres (PHCs) is that of the State Governments.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Karnataka Government has formulated a scheme for involving Private Medical Colleges and other agencies in the management of low performing PHCs. As per this scheme Private Medical and dental Colleges and Non-Governmental Organizations, Trusts and other charitable institutions may either directly manage the PHCs or contribute to the improvement of the facilities. As per the guidelines laid down, private medical colleges or NGOs would be handed over the PHCs for implementation of all National and State Health & Family welfare Programmes. Under this Scheme, the private agencies will be eligible for financial support from Government towards recurring expenditures subject to conditions, such as, providing services to patients as per State policy; furnishing of returns and audited statements etc. Private Trusts and charitable individuals can also adopt PHCs and Sub-centres for providing contributions of Rs. 50,000 to 1,00,000 to a PHC/Sub-centre.

Institutions providing education and practice in Yoga and Naturopathy

516. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that certain institutions in the country are providing education and practice in Yoga and Naturopathy;

(b) if so, whether Government intend to regulate these courses being run by these institutions by enacting a law;

(c) if so, by when such a law is likely to be enacted; and

(d) if not, reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Keeping in view number of colleges imparting education and number of practitioners, it may not be possible to enact a Central Act for regulating education & practice. As interim measure, steps have been initiated to authorize the Central Council for Research in Yoga and Naturopathy to work out modalities for regulation of Yoga and Naturopathy education and practice.

Introduction of Bill on CCIM

517. SHRI S. AGNIRAJ: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the status of the Bill introduced to take control of the CCIM by Government;

(b) whether it is a fact that some vested interests are trying to block the passage of this Bill;

(c) by when this Bill is likely to be taken up for discussion; and

(d) the reasons for introduction of this Bill?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (d) The Government has introduced a Bill to amend the Indian Medicine Central Council Act, 1970 to make enabling provision for taking prior permission of the Central Government for opening of new colleges, increase of admission capacity and starting of new or higher courses of study in Indian Systems of Medicine.

The Bill has been passed by the Rajya Sabha on 30th July, 2002 and has been introduced in the Lok Sabha in this Session.

There has been some representation against the proposed Bill.

Guidelines of Human Rights Commission on NPP

†518. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards the guidelines issued by the National Human Rights Commission with

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.